



J.V.H. CLARK, 1848.



MRS. J.V.H. CLARK, 1880.

Contents

A

MEMORIAL TO

JOSHUA V. H. CLARK

Compiled

By His Daughter

SOPHIA A. CLARK

At the Request of the

SYRACUSE PUBLIC LIBRARY

On the Sixtieth

Anniversary of the Publication

of his

History of Onondaga County

-1849--1909-

Contents

Biographical Sketch of J.V.H. Clark by Sophie A. Clark	p 1
A Manlius Family by Ernst Held	p 14
The House at Manlius	p 18
Mrs Clark's Ancestry	p 20
The Hiawatha Controversy	p 21 38 +
Sketch of J.V.H. Clark by Homer D.L. Sweet	p 22
Extract from address of Dr Babcock 1899	p 45
Review of Clark's "Onondaga" in N.Y. Tribune 1849	p 47
Resolutions in Memory of J.V.H. Clark by Onondaga Co. Hist. Association	p 49
Extract from Gospel Messenger June 24 1869	p 52
Manlius Academy, by Mrs Martha S. Edwards	p 54
Indians	p 60
Chronology	p 64

(By error in paging etc p 21)

Illustrations

Daquerreotype J. V. H. Clark 1848	}	Frontispiece
Photograph Mrs J. V. H. Clark 1880		
House on Deep Spring Farm		Facing p 4
Silhouette and Last Photograph J. V. H. Clark	"	p 8
Episcopal Church and Academy at Manlius	"	p 9
Manlius from the West	"	p 11
Samuel Morse monument at Medfield Mass	"	p 13
Joshua Clarks home at Manlius	"	p 18
Sons of J. V. H. Clark	"	p 20
Daughters of J. V. H. Clark	"	p 22
Original Monument to Thomas Clark at Plymouth		
Monument at Plymouth erected 1891	"	p 45
Manlius Academy	"	p 54
TAH-TO-TAH Chief of Six Nations	"	p 60
CAPT. SAM GEORGE	"	p 61
JOSEPH REUBEN	"	p 63

On being requested by the Local History Department of the Syracuse Public Library to write a sketch of the life of my father, Joshua V. H. Clark, I replied that it had already been done by one more capable.

On June 6, 1899, the Onondaga Historical Association celebrated at Manlius the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of the "History of Onondaga County." The principal address on that occasion was given by Dr. Carroll E. Smith, President of the Association at that time. This address was prepared with great accuracy by Dr. Smith, as it was his purpose to have it published as a leaflet for the

Association. In the confusion incident to Dr. Smith's long illness and death, this valuable paper was lost, and after much inquiry, cannot be found. Dr. Smith was followed by the Reverend Theodore Babcock, D.D. and William Manlius Smith, M.D.

As a young man, Dr. Carroll E. Smith knew Mr. Clark when he was coming to his father's office, seeing to the publication of the "History" of the County. Dr. Babcock and Dr. Manlius Smith were students at the Manlius Academy during Mr. Clark's trusteeship of the Academy.

Dr. Babcock's address was in a lighter vein and was afterwards presented to Mr. Clark's family. An extract is given in this memorial.

The Anniversary of the publication of the "History of Onondaga County" was largely attended. The officers of the Association, with members of Mr. Clark's family, occupied the

3

stage. Major Theodore Poole was Chairman of the Program Committee. The day was perfect and a large number of venerable people were present.

Two obituaries are offered, of the many written at the time of Mr. Clark's death in 1869---one by Homer D. L. Sweet, who as a life-long resident of Onondaga County and an associate of Mr. Clark's in the Historical Association, knew him intimately and was often a guest at his home. The other was written by Henry C. van Schaak, of Manlius, who for many years was associated with Mr. Clark in church, academic and civil life. Professor Ernst Held has offered a picture of home life at Manlius as he so vividly recalls it after more than half a century. Mrs. Martha Sherwood Edwards, whose family came to the county in 1795, offers a picture of academic life at Manlius in the 1850s. A New York Tribune of Oct. 2nd, 1849,



HOUSE ON DEEP SPRING FARM
BUILT BY CAPT. THOMAS CLARK 1805.

furnishes a notice of the "History of Onondaga County." The "Centennial History of Onondaga County" by General Dwight Bruce, Vol. 1, p. 781, says "Mr. Clark was the pioneer in local history and his volumes have always been a store-house from which all classes of writers have drawn, some of them giving him grateful credit and many taking the results of his painstaking toil without recognition."

In the year 1800, Mr. Thomas Clark, with his brother Oliver, left a home of comfort and refinement at Conway, Mass., to found homes for themselves in the then far West. They were sons of Elisha Clark, a minute-man of the Revolution, and his wife, Hannah Hopkins Clark, a descendant of Stephen and Giles Hopkins, of the Mayflower.

The coldness of the New England climate and the glowing accounts of the fertility

of the New York soil, the excellent character of the earlier pioneers, who had done much to make the country attractive, influenced a large number of New England people to emigrate to New York State.

Mr. Oliver Clark bought a large farm at Lenox, N. Y., where he lived to an advanced age, leaving numerous descendants. Mr. Thomas Clark continued his journey to Pompey West Hill, now known as Lafayette, where with true New England thrift, he taught for two winters, in the meanwhile looking for a farm approaching his ideal.

Pompey Hill had become celebrated through New England and was largely settled from there, making it a great inducement for others to follow. It was while teaching at Lafayette and enjoying the New England society which Pompey Hill afforded that Mr. Thomas Clark met Miss Ruthy Morse who at that time was teaching at the

Hill. After a short acquaintance they were married at the home of Miss Morse's father, Joshua Morse, Feb. 6, 1802; Mr. Morse owning a large farm near Clinton.

Mr. Morse was a descendant of Samuel Morse, of Dedham, Mass., who came to this country in 1635.

The winters of Pompey Hill being so severe, Mr. Thomas Clark decided to settle in Cazenovia until a more favorable location could be found. Here, on Feb. 10, 1803, the oldest child of a family of five was born, and later generously bestowed with names---all family ones---Joshua Victor Hopkins. He was often called by his young friends "Alphabet Clark."

In 1805 Mr. Thomas Clark was enabled to buy what is known as the Deep Spring Farm, named from a wonderful and at one time popular curiosity. The spring is in a large bowl-shaped

depression in the earth about sixty feet in diameter and thirty feet in depth. Here was the dividing line between the Onondaga and Oneida Nations. Here ran the line between Madison and Onondaga Counties; the farm being partly in Madison and partly in Onondaga Counties, in the town of Sullivan.

The farm was situated on the Seneca turnpike, at one time a great thoroughfare of the State, where gorgeous four-horse stage coaches with their horns and passengers made life, and brought many a luxury to the people so fortunate as to be situated on it. Passengers often alighted to visit the Spring, drink its pure waters and perhaps carve a name on a forest tree.

Moving into a log house on this farm, Mr. Thomas Clark soon built a large, commodious house with every improvement of the times. While a well was being dug inside the house, in what



J. V. H. Clark
Silhouette, 1827



J. V. H. Clark
Last Photograph, 1862

was called in those days a "well-room", the waters of the Deep Spring, perhaps an eighth of a mile away, were very much roiled, proving that a stream must run under much of the farm.

The house completed, Mr. Thomas Clark, his wife, his son--Joshua--- and a daughter--Hannah--moved in. Four slaves were bought who stayed until they were freed in 1827, with the exception of one woman who refused to leave the home of so many years.

Fruit trees and flowers soon surrounded the house and this large farm was carried on with great success until Thomas Clark's death in 1844. Mrs. Clark died in 1842.

In this home Joshua Clark passed his childhood. His early education was obtained at what was long known as the Stone Schoolhouse, about one half mile west of his home, in Onondaga County. It was a notable school. Latin books



EPISCOPAL CHURCH
MANLIUS, N.Y.



MANLIUS ACADEMY



used in this school, bought by Mr. Thomas Clark, are preserved by his descendants.

The only teacher in this school Mr. Clark has ever mentioned was Miss Charlotte Hickcock. A friendship was then formed which lasted until Mr. Clark's death. Miss Hickcock married General Amos P. Granger who was at that time in active business in Eagle Village, which was then a flourishing town.

In 1811 the first circulating library in Onondaga County was established. It was opened at Eagle Village with two hundred fifty volumes, and Mr. Thomas Clark was one of its charter members.

In 1813 an Episcopal Church was built in Manlius through the aid of Trinity Church in New York City, bringing together many smaller societies. Mr. Clark bought two pews, and although three and one half miles from the church, was usually present at its services.



MANLIUS from the WEST.

FROM A PAINTING BY AUGUSTUS ROCKWELL.

10

Always interested in the cause of education, Mr. Clark was one of the original subscribers to a fund for the founding of Hobart College.

Mrs. Clark was a woman of great energy and finely educated. None of her children ever left the home with an unlearned lesson.

After leaving the stone school^{house}, the five children were given academic educations-- the sons at Pompey Hill, Geneva and Onondaga Valley; the daughters at Hamilton Academy and at Dr. Rudd's once famous school at Utica.

Standing at his mother's side, young Joshua learned his first lesson in patriotism when during the war of 1812 a large Company of soldiers in passing the house approached it, asking for water. Mrs. Clark had all the milk in the dairy brought and it was eagerly consumed by the thirsty men.

One of the great pleasures of Mr. Clark as a boy was to go with his father, a Captain, to General Training at Manlius Square or some village where the State Militia was reviewed by the Governor of the State or by some general. On this great day, father, in his uniform, crowded ^{the children into} the family carriage; each child having twenty-five cents to spend as it wished. Oh! the gingerbread, candy, hot-meat stews--- everything to tempt the child of so many years ago. There were a few booths for hot dinners; but many energetic boys carried in large Indian baskets on their strong, willing arms such tempting lunches that the fruits of their enterprise were the foundations of fortunes yet enjoyed in New York and Syracuse families.

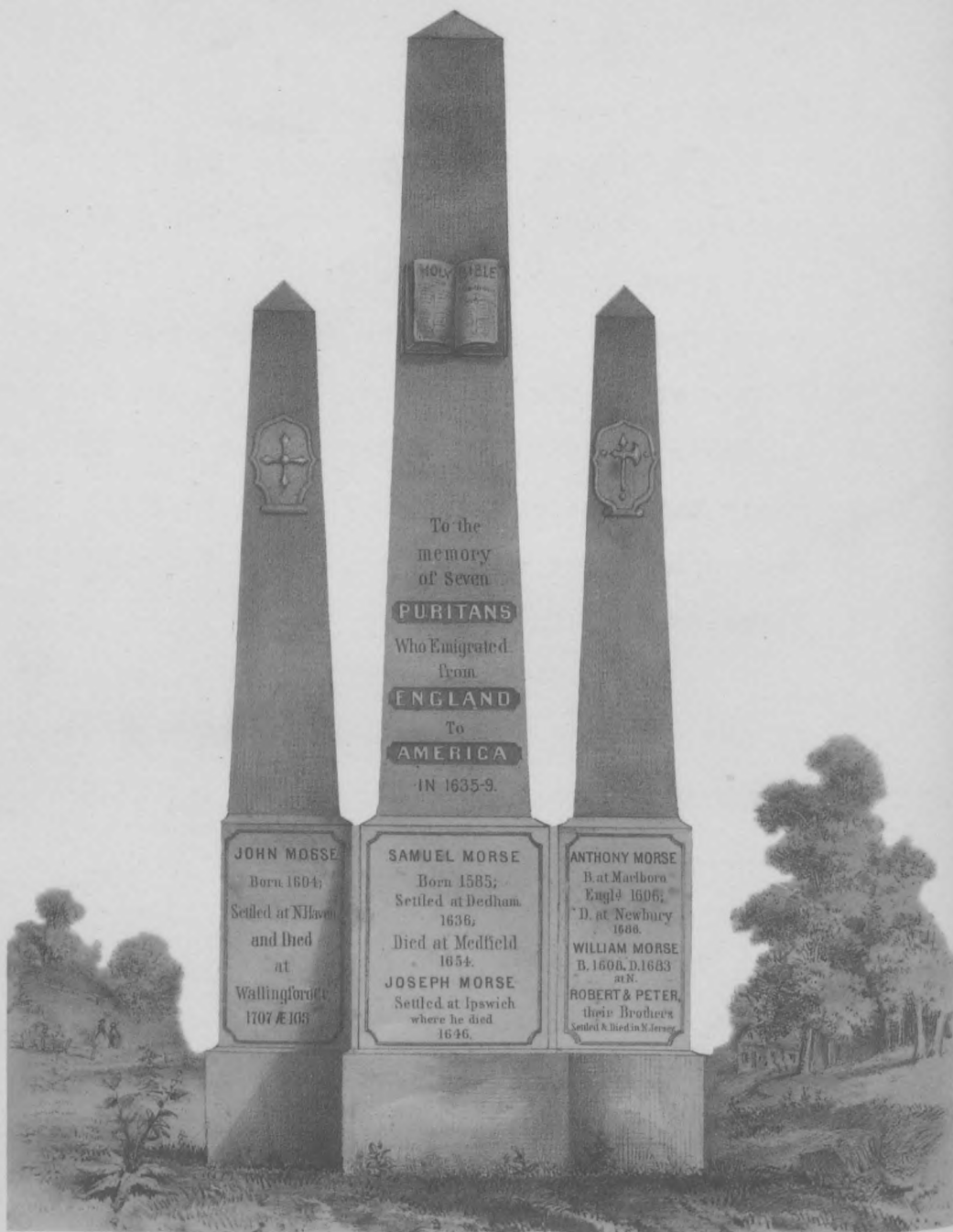
Then, the dancing bears and the side shows! No wonder they saved up during the entire year to increase the sum of that day's

12-8
expenditure.

Special stages, large private carriages, were crowded; horseback riders and large numbers of pedestrians were early on the road to attend the General Training, where they were most sure to meet many old friends and neighbors; even visits from New England were arranged to take place about General Training time. Tired children, some sound asleep, were returned to their mothers at early evening ready to begin in the morning to plan for the pleasure to be again enjoyed on the next General Training day.

In this New England family and unfluence, Mr. Clark passed the first twenty five years of his life.

Mr. Clark's genealogical records can be found in the Clark-Clarke genealogies by Rev. William W. Johnson, and the Memorial to the



Monument to Samuel Morse, J.V.H. Clark's first maternal ancestor in America, at Medfield, Mass.

Morses by Reverend Abner Morse.

Samuel Morse, the first maternal ancestor of Mr. Clark in America, belonged to that great class of Puritans who strove to separate from the corruptness of the established Church while they continued in her, and the date of their separation is synchronous with that of their embarkation for New England in 1635. They ever considered themselves exiles and Christian Pilgrims from their native land.

Mr. Clark was many times a descendant of the Mayflower. He was also descended from Thomas Prince, a colonial governor and from two minute-men.

Sophia A. Clark

-A MANLIUS FAMILY-

Looking backward over a long stretch of sixty years, there stands in my memory the picture of a peaceful happy home and family, that of Joshua V. H. Clark, A.M., the author of the renowned History of Onondaga.

It was during my pilgrimage from Syracuse to Manlius Centre, Fayetteville, Manlius Village, Pompeyhill and Jamesville, which I made as a teacher of music and drawing in the springs and summers of 1849 and 1850, that I had the privilege and pleasure of becoming well acquainted with that worthy family, a friendly relation which has continued with its surviving members to this day.

The Clark homestead in the higher eastern part of Manlius village consisted in a

15

two-story, white-painted farmhouse with a grass plot and flowerbeds in front and a large flower and vegetable garden and orchard at its side and back. Its orderly neatness and brightness attracted the attention of mere passers-by.

There it was my delightful privilege to spend the time from Saturday ^{evening} ~~morning~~ to Sunday ~~morning~~ for the two seasons.

The family consisted then in Mr. and Mrs. Clark, two sons---Thomas and Albert--and three daughters--Louise, Sophia and little Cornelia.

Mr. Clark was a quiet, unobtrusive gentleman of medium stature. He spoke always in a gentle, subdued voice and with great politeness.

In the spring of 1849, when I first became acquainted with him, he was zealously engaged in the last labors of getting his

great book, the "History of Onondaga," in shape for publication.

He had asked me to translate several of the "Relations" of the French traders and Jesuit missionaries from the French into English, and on several Saturdays he showed to me with great pride and to my great delight the new, shiny stereotype-plates. These plates and the engraved steelplates for the portraits and maps in the book were destroyed by a fire in the Pike block about 1856, where they had been stored.

Of Mrs. Clark I have the vivid and pleasant recollection of her being a gentlewoman with a softly speaking voice, and a model wife, mother, friend, housekeeper, and ever ready to help the poor and needy. On Sunday morning, when I started on my tramp to Mr. Wells' home, near Pompey Hill, where on Monday morning I had to teach the daughter, the late Mrs. Henry

Duguid. Mrs. Clark always slipped a nice luncheon in my side-satchel, and some years later, when, as a reconvalescent, I was a guest in her family for about a week, she nursed me with motherly care.

Of the boys, the elder, Thomas, was a supermischevious and somewhat roguish youngster, of whose tricks as fellow-student with our honored former townsman, Dr. Andrew D. White, in Hobart College, this one has given some amusing hints in his "Autobiography".

When I meet the second daughter of the family, Miss Sophia Clark, who is a member of the Historical Association, we recall the days of yore in her Manlius home.

Ernst Held.

Syracuse, March 23, 1909.

Note

The translations which Mr. Held so vividly recalls after more than sixty years must have been from letters and papers which were used in a book entitled "Lights and Lines of Indian Character and Scenes of Pioneer Life", which was published in 1854 from material gleaned at the time he was working on his history of the County. Mr. Clark says, on page 4, volume I of his history of the county, "To the Honorable Carter Brown of Providence, R.I. the most unfeigned thanks for his partial favor, in placing at the author's disposal the Jesuit Relation, relative to our County's history. Mr. Brown has a rare collection of these works published about two hundred years ago at Paris in the French language." The translation was made for Mr. Clark by a woman, name forgotten, who was accomplished in the translation of obsolete French. There were few English translations until the year 1879 when the Cayuga Historical Society published a translation made by one of its members, the late Dr. Charles Hawley of Auburn.

S.A.C.



JOSHUA CLARKS HOME AT MANLIUS, N.Y.

FROM PHOTO MADE ABOUT 1868.

The House at Manlius

The picture of Mr. Clark's house at Manlius was taken in 1868. The trees had so absorbed the soil that it was necessary to remove the flower beds which are described by Professor Held. A croquet ground was set out which afforded pleasure to many friends of the family.

The house was originally built by a Mr. Rhodes, a prominent resident of Manlius, and was thoroughly repaired by Mr. Clark after its purchase.

It was situated on grounds containing one and one thirds acres which were divided into three terraces, each having a hundred feet front, the most easterly containing an orchard and vineyard. Mr. Clark is said to have been the first to cultivate grapes in a scientific manner in Onondaga County. The central terrace contained the house, flowers,

and shrubs, with a small apiary in the rear. The western terrace was devoted to fruits and vegetables.

The wonder of the place was a pecan tree, grown from a nut planted by Mrs. Clark in 1839. It grew slowly in its foreign environment; the flowers dropping with no fruit for many years. In later years the fruit formed and remained on the tree until late frosts. At the time of its destruction by fire, with the house, in 1891, it had not attained its growth although it towered far above the house. Its huge branches, composed of slighter branches and large fan-like leaves with thirteen to fifteen leaflets, in severe winds swayed its delicate trunk to the roots.



LIEUT ALBERT G. CLARK,
CAPT 2ND COLORADO REG'T.

d March 30 1897

Sons of J.V.H. Clark



MAJOR W.T. CLARK,
1ST NEBRASKA REG'T.

d. Aug 16 1890

Mrs. Clark's Ancestry

At Mrs. Clark's oft-expressed request, no obituaries were written after her death. She was a descendant of John Sims who came to Jamestown, in Virginia, in 1675. Her father was William Sims, a pioneer of Madison County, from Simsbury, Conn. Her mother was Deborah Weaver, a descendant of Benjamin Weaver, a pioneer of Tivertown, Rhode Island, and through the intermarriage of the Weaver and Williams families, a descendant of Roger Williams.

A quiet, home-making woman of rare dignity and great hospitality, she was never more happy than when with her children she gathered the young people of the town into her spacious home for some merrymaking.

She died ^{September} ~~August~~ 23, 1887. ^{at 81} She was buried in the quiet churchyard in Manlius beside her husband.

Sketch of Joshua V. H. Clark

by

Homer D. L. Sweet.

Biography, like history, needs the crystalizing action of time, to enable any one to write impartially of the dead. The little minutia of every day life are too familiar in our memories to talk of freely; the public acts are of too recent date to have their full force measured. The partiality of friends often gives too glowing a picture, and the detractions of enemies have not had the opportunity to lose their sharpness, until the daisies have blossomed and faded on the grave of the departed many, many times. To choose the neutral, or the medium course, between the two extremes of those who love and admire, and those who hate and contemn, is not alway the proper course.

Occasionally both extremes are right, but often both are wrong; and he who shall have that faculty for discernment to select the fair and the equitable, possesses a gift that is not often found, and one which we honestly fear we can lay no claim to. With the Scylla of religious intolerance on one hand, and the Charybdis of political animosity on the other, it will indeed be strange if we sail in safety.

It would have suited us far better to have been the eulogist of our friend rather than his biographer; but his express wishes preclude the possibility; and as it was his desire that no funeral pomp should take place over his remains, and as simple a sketch of his life as could possibly be written, should be all that should follow him, we try to comply; but where so much could be said, it is harder to condense than to elaborate.

The first ancestor of the family in America was Thomas Clark, of Plymouth, who came in the Ann in July, 1623. As most of those who came at that time were friends of those who came in the Mayflower in 1620, we conclude he was from England. He was a carpenter by trade, a representative of the town in 1651 and 1655; removed to Harwich in 1670, and died on the 24th of March, 1697, aged 92 years. The line of descent is through six generations, Joshua being the seventh. Thomas Clark, the father of Joshua, came from his home in Conway, Mass., and engaged as a school teacher in Lafayette Square in the winter of 1801 and 1802.

On Feb. 10, 1802, Thomas Clark was married to Ruth Morse. She was a descendant of Samuel Morse, who emigrated to New England in 1635, and settled at Dedham, Mass., in 1637. This name, now distinguished in the realms of

science, was originally Mors, (Fr. Death) and was a sir-name bestowed upon a Norman Knight by William the Conqueror, to perpetuate his prowess in battle. After this marriage, Thomas Clark settled in the town of Cazenovia, near the extreme northwest corner, where, on the 6th of February, 1803, Joshua was born. He remained here but two years, when he removed about two miles north onto the old Seneca turnpike, a few rods east of our county line, in the town of Sullivan, where he continued to reside the remainder of a lengthy and useful life.

It was here that Joshua passed his infancy, boyhood and early manhood in that noblest of occupations, the cultivation of the soil, and we have the best evidence that he loved the pursuit for its nobleness, the independence and the opportunities it gave him for self instruction which were fully appreciated and rarely neglected.

His teaching was such as the district schools of fifty years since afforded, with the exception of a short time at Pompey Academy, and six months at Geneva Academy. Education, with him, did not consist merely in what is gathered from text books alone, but he sought every occasion to store his mind with useful knowledge and from every source. He was ever considered an excellent scholar by those who were scholars with him, an adept in the mechanical, as well as the theoretical management of a farm, an earnest searcher after agricultural knowledge, and a contributor to the agricultural periodicals of those days.

It is not known how early in life he commenced to write for the agricultural papers. Perhaps his first effusions appeared in the Plow Boy, the first agricultural paper in America, if not in the world; but later in life, the

columns of the Genesee Farmer bear many tokens of his labor, and the Albany Cultivator was often enriched with his essays, entertaining and instructive. He preserved the volumes with scrupulous care, had them handsomely bound, and often referred to them with pleasure and profit.

He remained upon the homestead until he was twenty-five years of age, when he removed to Eagle Village, where he resided until 1838, when he removed to Manlius Village, where he continued to reside, and cultivated a large farm until the last eighteen years, with scientific skill and financial success.

It was not until his removal to Manlius that his taste for historical reading and research began to develop itself, which finally culminated in that indispensable work, the "History of Onondaga." His only other volume "Lights and Lines of Indian and Pioneer Life," a work

founded entirely upon historical facts and date, is one that ought to have had a far greater circulation than it ever attained. The only critical notice we ever saw of it was in the London Times, and as near as we can recollect now, the reviewer thought it a very interesting work, one in which the legends had the stamp of genuineness, without revealing the interpolations of the interpreter or translator. His essays and historical researches for the last ten or twelve years have been published in the Syracuse Journal, although a few have been sent to the metropolitan press. They are of great value to the future historian, full of facts and rich in instruction.

For his many and varied labors in literature and the promotion of education, he was the recipient of many honorary testimonials; being elected corresponding member of the most distinguished literary and scientific

societies in New York, New England and the west. As early as 1848, previous to the publication of "Onondaga", Geneva College conferred upon him the honorary title of A.M., for his useful and assiduous labors.

On account of his intimacy with the Onondaga Indians, and his devotion to their welfare, he was elected and duly installed an honorary civil chief in January 1850, with the title of Go-yah-de-Kae-na-has, signifying the Friend and Defender.

But Mr. Clark's usefulness was not confined by any means to his literary labors. He took a deep interest in the cause of universal education, and his best efforts were given for the perfection of our common school system, the glory of the State. He was for nearly thirty years a prominent and efficient trustee of the Manlius Academy, and Secretary to the board most of the time.

He was a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church for forty years, and vestryman and warden at different times. He was sincere in his belief, and thorough as an officer. He was a member of the N. Y. Legislature for the year 1855, and in consequence of his civil relation to the "Six Nations" he was made chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs. His reports upon the condition of the Indians of New York, and the Anti-Rent question then agitating the minds of our most distinguished men, are remarkable for their clearness and erudition. He was for several years the President of the village corporation, and in every way possible gave his aid and influence to make Manlius one of the prettiest villages in Central New York.

He was the first president of the Manlius and Pompey Agricultural Society, one of its earnest supporters and ever active in

advancing its interests. His inaugural address was the best we ever listened to, filled with sound practical knowledge and language suited to the capacity of his hearers. It ought to have been published in the Transactions of the N. Y. State Society.

He was the first President of the Onondaga Historical Association, and re-elected four times. The interest he took in this infant but growing institution was honest, earnest, and continued till his death. He made greater sacrifices than any member of the Board of Directors to attend their meetings, often visiting the city to find no quorum, and returning in the night ten tedious miles. His donations to the library were many and valuable, some of the volumes quite rare, and none that they would willingly part with. His farewell address to the Board, when declining health prevented his

longer attendance, is one of marked ability, showing that he felt deeply the importance and objects of its mission, and held its success one of the greatest hopes of his life. The resolutions passed by the Association (not the Board of Directors) were not all that we could wish, for we honestly believe him to be entitled to the appellation of the "Historian of Onondaga," and as such, his name should be held in grateful remembrance.

The chief, the crowning glory of a useful life, and the one by which the name of Mr. Clark will descend to posterity, honored by those who have any interest in the events that transpired in years gone by, and respected by those who have none, is his incomparable History of Onondaga. This, to be sure, may not be written with the beautiful precision of a Bancroft or the extreme minutia of a Prescott,

with the profundity of a Gibbon or the fascination of a Hume, but for those for whom it was intended, his fellow-men, nine-tenths of whom were farmers like himself, who could readily appreciate the difficulties under which he labored, nothing could be in better taste, nothing more worthy of their acceptance.

When it is considered that these two large volumes were gathered and arranged at intervals, amid the toils and perplexities of a farmer's life; not the hours of idleness of a wealthy gentleman, who is farmer only in name; but an actual worker, one who held his own plow and led his laborers in the field, the result is remarkable, although it be the labor of seven lengthy years.

His long and friendly intercourse with the Onondaga Indians, rendered it peculiarly appropriate that he should be the vehicle

by which their legends, traditions, and historical matter should be given to the world. The mass of matter that he rescued from oblivion, in traditions and the little facts of history, snatched like brands from their council fires, when age and fast approaching dissolution were making fearful havoc with the frames of those chiefs, Captain Frost and Abram La Fort, will long endear his name to those who now have no fear that their traditions will be lost, and for it, too, he will ever deserve the thanks of all lovers of the beautiful, whether it be the creation of the imagination and fancy, or the records of the actual and real.

His many translations from French authors, concerning the missions of the Jesuits and their occupation of the country, may have been more interesting to us who was reared upon their old corn fields, and whose infantile

playthings were the relics of those who lived two hundred years before us, than those who never had anything to excite their curiosity concerning such things; but that they were very valuable, none can deny, and they who neglect to read them, fail to comprehend one chapter, at least, in our history.

Mr. Clark was a pioneer in local history; he searched the manuscript records with assiduous care which had to be turned by page, as there were no indexes, and the only catch word "Onondaga", to call his attention to something worthy of his notice. Consider this, and the reader can hardly fail to award him the praise of a patient, persevering, painstaking man. His searches after matter, in all available sources, from the libraries of New England, as well as our own State, prove his assiduity and earnestness; while his

labors in collating, comparing and correcting, stamp at once his honesty of purpose and the desire to be reliable.

That portion of the History of Onondaga which had to be gathered from the memories of men and women, in all parts of the country, is the only portion that we have ever heard any fault found with, and the most we ever heard is summed up in the words, "My grandfather was an old settler and his name is not mentioned." We listened to these complaints with some patience, until we learned that Mr. Clark advertised, in all of the county papers, for a great length of time, for just such material. That there may be some things omitted, that are really essential to a complete history, there is no doubt; but we have gleaned in the field twice, and have not found enough grain to make a band to bind one of his

sheaves.

That he faithfully and earnestly sought to do full justice to all men, and all localities, we have no doubt; that he sometimes was misled and deceived would be no more than could be expected. His compilations of facts and figures, that embrace hundreds of proper names, and thousands of dates, was done with as few mistakes in transcribing and printing as any work in the world.

His biographical sketches of Indian chiefs and prominent men, must necessarily have been written from the conflicting testimony of those who knew the individual better than himself; but they seem to have been written in candor, with the desire to be impartial, and their truthfulness we have never heard questioned by any fair-minded man.

Of all Mr. Clark's public acts, the

only one that we have cause to regret is one in relation to the legend of Hi-a-wat-ha, and this we consider an error of omission rather than commision.

When Mr. Schoolcraft published his "Notes on the Iroquois," without giving Mr. Clark due credit, in our opinion Mr. C. should then have brought Mr. S. to the bar of public opinion; and the only excuse he could have had for not doing so, was that Mr. S. had a great reputation, while his own was limited. He supposed, undoubtedly, that he could soon do the next best thing, which he did in a note on page 30 in his History of Onondaga, in which he claims that he furnished Mr. S. with the manuscript from which he framed the legend in the "Notes."

It is not to be supposed for a moment

that Mr. S. did not see the History of Onondaga. He was one of the most influential men in the New York Historical Society; had been in correspondence with Mr. C.; knew that he was preparing a history, and was deeply interested in all that pertained to the aboriginal inhabitants, and the volumes were placed upon the shelves of their library as soon as published.

The History of Onondaga was, to the best of our knowledge, the first local history in the State; and not only attracted attention at home, but was eagerly sought for by every historical society in the land from Maine to Minnesota. It was on the shelves of the library of the New York Historical Society four years; in the presence of Mr. Schoolcraft every day until he published his large work, "History, Condition and Prospects of the Indian Tribes in the United States," and to ignore its exist-

istence ^{is} in simply ridiculous. Upon the publication of this large work Mr. Clark had another opportunity of demanding justice of Mr. S. We regret that he failed to do so, but why we do not know.

When Longfellow published his "Song of Hiawatha," the curiosity of the public was considerably excited in relation to some of the legends. Mr. Clark presented his claims, in a long letter, to the New York Tribune. Very unfortunately for Mr. Schoolcraft, he replied to Mr. C., and imputed motives to him unworthy of a gentleman. Mr. Clark, in a rejoinder, produced the proofs and convicted Mr. S. of plagiarism, if not of untruthfulness. Mr. Parkman, a New England historian, has recently exposed Mr. Schoolcraft's "striking unfitness, either for historical or philosophical inquiry." *

History is not invented; the facts

* See note p 44 a

must be taken as they occur, and if harsh features show themselves, like rugged rocks by the wayside, the polite historian will soften their roughness with beautiful language, as a landscape gardener would train a delicate vine over the unsightly rock and beautify its deformity. Mr. Clark undoubtedly found many things in his researches that had a roughness he could not hide, but wiser than he who attempts to conceal, he has not brought such things within the scope of his picture. In this he did well, for in every neighborhood there is some foul blot upon some individual that his meaner neighbor would gladly have perpetuated.

Local bickerings, disputes and jealousies will creep and crawl through every community. Every good man will have his enemies, and the more anxious he is to do good, the more he will be, and the more he should expect to be

abused. We have the best reasons for believing that Mr. Clark met many such in the county, sometimes between individuals, frequently between neighborhoods and sometimes whole villages. That attempts were made to enlist him in these quarrels, we are very confident, but that he steered his little craft among the rocks skillfully, and "run the rapids" without a wreck, the record he has left for us shows conclusively.

The last five years of Mr. Clark's life were rendered sad by a cancerous affection which attacked his face, and for the last year put him in mental and physical torture almost continually. He bore his sufferings with a heroic and Christian fortitude, refusing assistance from any but his family until almost his last hour. His strength of mind was such that it sustained his feeble frame far beyond any thing that is ordinarily expected, and he was

confined to his bed absolutely but two days.

His countenance, that had for months been tortured with disease and pain, until his best friend would not have known him, a few moments before his final dissolution resumed its mild and cheerful expression, and his spirit passed quietly and peacefully away. He died on the 18th of June, 1869, in his 67th year.

As a farmer, Joshua V. H. Clark was sagacious, scientific and successful; as a public man he was honest and upright; as a Christian, zealous and hopeful; as a friend, devoted and firm; as a neighbor, kind and obliging; as an essayist, instructive and entertaining; as a historian, faithful and truthful; and take him all in all, we shall not often look upon his like again.

The Hiawatha Controversy

Papers compiled by H. C. Van Schaack, of Manlius, with regard to the Hiawatha controversy were presented by him to the Onondaga Historical Association, at whose rooms they may be seen.



Original Monument to Thomas Clark
at Plymouth.



HERE LIES BURIED YE BODY OF
MR THOMAS CLARKE
AGED 98.
DEPARTED THIS LIFE MARCH 24, 1897.

THOMAS CLARKE WAS MATE OF THE MAYFLOWER
ACCORDING TO TRADITION IN THE PLYMOUTH AND
CONNECTICUT COLONIES. HISTORY GIVES HIS
ARRIVAL IN PLYMOUTH FROM ENGLAND ON THE
SHIP ANNE IN 1689. HE MARRIED SUSAN KING OF
PLYMOUTH IN 1694. THEIR CHILDREN WERE ANDREW, JAMES,
WILLIAM, SUSANNA, NATHANIEL AND JOHN. FROM WHOM
DESCENDED A NUMEROUS POSTERITY. HE MARRIED HIS
SECOND WIFE MRS. ALICE HALDETT NICHOLS OF BOSTON
IN 1854. HE LIVED FOR SOME YEARS IN BOSTON,
AND ALSO IN HARTFORD OF WHICH TOWN HE
WAS ONE OF THE ORIGINAL PROPRIETORS.
HE DIED IN PLYMOUTH HAVING LIVED IN THE
REIGNS OF SEVEN BRITISH SOVEREIGNS
THE COMMONWEALTH AND THE PROTECTORATE.

THIS STONE IS ERECTED TO HIS MEMORY
BY HIS DESCENDANTS A.D. 1897.

Monument to Thomas Clark, erected at Plymouth, 1897.

EXTRACT OF ADDRESS OF
DOCTOR BABCOCK BEFORE THE HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION ON PIONEERS' DAY, JUNE 6, 1899.

"The mission of Joshua Clark to exploit the worthy deeds and the sturdy enterprise and the chivalry of the pioneers of his county, is a mission no less honorable and to be honored, than the mission of the pioneers themselves.

The Historian and the Chronicler, who by faithful and laborious research and a genius fitted for the task, has rescued from oblivion and put in lasting record the services and lives of the founders and builders of our County domain, deserves of their descendants and successors all the honor, which on this day, the fiftieth anniversary of the completion of that invaluable History, we may render to the

author who was providentially raised up and fittingly equipped for that enduring work.

It is true that we cannot regard the work of J. V. H. Clark as complete for all time, but it was as complete up to the time of its production, fifty years ago, as any human work of the same kind could be. It was the foundation, well and firmly laid, upon which all subsequent work in this line was constructed. It originated and inspired the work of the Historical Association. It is a logical sequence and a very natural conclusion that if there had been no antecedent history, there would have been no occasion for an Association to follow it up."

From Weekly Tribune, N.Y. Oct 3, 1849.

Onondaga: Or, Reminiscences of Earlier and Later Times; being a Series of Historical Sketches relative to Onondaga; By Joshua V. H. Clark, Corresponding Member of the New-York Historical Society. 2 vols. 8vo. pp. 797. Stoddard & Babcock. (Price \$3.)

Here is a book that authors ought to study, to show them how to make books. We do not see how any abiding citizen of Onondaga County can help borrowing it at least, if unable to buy it; while its interest is by no means restricted to that County. Its several chapters are entitled

1. Indians. 2. Traditions of the Onondagas. 3.4. Pagan Rites and Ceremonies. 4.5. Lives of Distinguished Onondaga Chiefs. 6. French Missions. 8.9. Early History of the Onondagas, and incidentally of the Six Nations. 10. Reminiscences. 1. Onondaga County. 12. Onondaga Salt Springs. 13. Erie Canal. 14. Syracuse. 15. Notes on the several Towns of Onondaga County. 16. Oswego.

It is illustrated by a fine map of Onondaga County and vicinity and by portraits accompanying Biographies, of pioneers and eminent men

of that County, viz,

Ossahinta	Joshua Forman	Azariah Smith
Ephraim Webster	Thaddeus M. Wood	Nich. P. Randall
Comfort Tyler	Jaspar Hopper	Daniel Kellogg
James Geddes	Dr. J. C. Baldwin	

Beside a great variety engraved views of anti-
quities, Old Forts, Geological Formation, &c. &c.
There are also biographies without Portraits of
Wyllis Gaylord, Wm. Kirkpatrick, Asa Danforth,
Moses De Witt, Dan Bradley and Col. John Dill.

It does not require great genius to
make a book on such a plan--nothing but intelli-
gence, industry and good sense. Mr. Clark has
been eminently successful, and the sale of his
book will prove it. We trust his success will
attract others to the same path and impel them
to pursue it faithfully. The publishers have
done the work justice.

-THE LATE J. V. H. CLARK-

Proceedings of the Onondaga County
Historical Association.

At a special meeting of the members of the Onondaga Historical Association at their rooms in the Clinton Block, June 21, 1869, Mr. L. H. Redfield was called to the chair, and William A. Beach chosen secretary.

Mr. James S. Leach stated the object of the meeting to be to take proper action on the death of the Hon. J. V. H. Clark, one of the organizers and the first President of the Association, and moved a committee of five on resolutions; when the chair named the following gentlemen as such committee:

James S. Leach, Charles E. Fitch, William Kirkpatrick, E. L. Walrath and T. S. Truair,

who reported through their chairman the following Resolutions:

WHEREAS, Joshua V. H. Clark, the first President of this Association, annually re-elected to the same office until the first of January, 1857, when other duties and impaired health compelled him to decline the further honor, and the faithful and distinguished compiler of the annals of the county, died at his residence in the village of Manlius, on the 18th inst.; and,

WHEREAS, he ever took a deep interest in the success and prosperity of our Association, and as the records of our Association testify to his large liberality in frequent and valuable donations; and,

WHEREAS, his sound judgment, kindness of heart and urbanity of manner endeared him to

every one of his associates; therefore,

RESOLVED, that in the death of the Hon. Joshua V. H. Clark, not this Association alone, but this county has reason to mourn the loss of a great and good man and one of its most valuable members.

RESOLVED, that we sincerely sympathize with his afflicted family in their bereavement.

RESOLVED, that as a tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased, a delegation of the members of this Association attend his funeral, and that these Resolutions be entered in our book of records, a copy thereof transmitted to the family of the deceased, and a copy furnished our papers for publication.

The Association then adjourned.

L. H. Redfield, Chairman.

William A. Beach, Secretary.

EXTRACT FROM THE GOSPEL MESSENGER

of June 24, 1869.

DIED: At Manlius on the 18th inst. in the 67th year of his age, Mr. Joshua V. H. Clarke.

A highly intelligent, Christian gentleman, and a man of great purity of character. He was for very many years a Vestryman, and for a time Senior Warden, of Christ Church, Manlius. He was distinguished for great accuracy and sound judgment and high integrity in the numerous public trusts filled by him, and in all these positions his usefulness was decided.

Mr. Clarke had a fine literary taste, and his contributions to our historical literature are numerous and valuable. For several years his health has been impaired by an insidious cancerous affection, against which he bore

up to the last with a truly Christian fortitude and resignation. He leaves to be cherished by his family and other connections, and by his numerous friends, an unspotted reputation. I esteem it a privilege to have been numbered among those friends for the period of forty years.

H.C.V.S.

Manlius, June 19, 1869.

MANLIUS ACADEMY

Compiled by

MRS. MARTHA SHERWOOD EDWARDS-

At an early date, the leading citizens of Manlius considered schools and churches of the first importance, and the suburban inhabitants valued their farm property by the distance it was from good schools and churches; so each was enthusiastic and ready to contribute to the establishment of such edifices as were necessary, and they built in a generous way for their descendants.

One of the principal founders of the Manlius Academy was our honored County Historian, J. V. H. Clark, who was not only untiring in his efforts for the establishment of this school but who continued to watch over its interests during

his lifetime.

This period was before the time of the State Board of Regents, so it was customary for the parents to take a special pride in the school and a social interest in the professors and teachers. Under these conditions the exercises at the close of each school year were public, held in the Academy chapel and well attended. Seats were reserved for the Trustees and the Pastors of the churches, who were expected to ask questions of any pupil of each class as it appeared upon the rostrum for examination, or to make remarks or suggestions upon the essays read and the declamations given.

J. V. H. Clark will always be remembered as a favorite with the students. He was a man of fine presence, of a very kindly and polished manner, a man of literary tastes and thorough training.

When examining a class in Latin, the Higher Mathamatics, History, Astronomy or Botany, his questions were put in so concise and kindly a way--never a catch question--that the pupils were helped and instructed, often a kindly criticism being thankfully received.

Mr. Clark was a gentleman of leisure but never idle, he was prominent in establishing a Lyceum for the benefit of the Academy in which the Trustees and professional gentlemen of the village as well as the students took an active part. Before this society Mr. Clark read a paper in regard to the settlement and growth of Onondaga County. This paper excited so much interest that he was requested to read it at a number of gatherings in the County, and soon he received an urgent petition to write the History of Onondaga Co. When he decided to do so, he gave to the work his undivided

attention and his interest never flagged until the history was published, and all this too at his individual expense, for this antedated the times of publishing books by subscription.

Mr. Clark's labors were very thorough, he drove to every part of the county, tracing out every first settler then living, held personal interviews with them, so as to obtain as direct and accurate information upon every branch of the subject as it was possible to gain.

Mr. Clark also took a special interest in the Indians of our County. They trusted him and he was the first white citizen taken into their full confidence, for they allowed him to witness their most secret and sacred rites, some of which he was pledged not to divulge and did not give in his history.

When this History was published Mr. Clark interested himself to have a copy placed in every established school in the county many times at his own expense. Does not Onondaga

Co. owe to J. V. H. Clark a special tribute of gratitude?

Because of its early establishment and high standing and success as an educational center, Manlius Academy was rated third in the State of New York and under Prof. Bailey's charge had the reputation of sending young men to our various colleges with the best preparation attainable at any school.

The records of Manlius Academy show that in the middle of the 50s a teacher had been sent from this school into every state in the Union and that many young men from this Academy had passed through our best colleges into the Army, the Navy, into the Ministry and various mission fields, the legal profession, and had succeeded as inventors, mechanics and in trades and all the active walks of life, so there were many whose life was broadened, ennobled and helped to success by the instruction

(Note).

The first Trustees of the Manlius Academy associated with Mr. Clark were:

Azariah Smith	:	
	:	Senators.
Samuel L. Edwards	:	
Elijah Rhoades	:	Delegates to Congress to revise
	:	the State Constitution in 1846.
Dr. William Taylor	:	
J. V. H. Clark	:	Historian.
Nicholas P. Randall	:	
	:	Lawyers.
Henry G. Van Schaack	:	
Sheldon Graves	:	
Henry Ewers	:	Prominent business men.
Peter R. Reed	:	

Dr. Henry B. Moore, and later many others.

(Note).

In 1834 the citizens of Manlius adopted measures for the establishment of an academy, the project crystallized in the appointment of a temporary Board of Trustees consisting of

Azariah Smith	Rev. Algernon S. Hollister
Nicholas P. Randall	Rev. Carlos Smith
Dr. Taylor	Rev. David Bellamy
Silas Williams	Rev. R. Houghton
Peter R. Reed	

It was incorporated by act of Legislature April 13, 1835.

and privileges of the early established school.
The influence of a true and successful life
never dies.

*The first Trustees of the Manlius
Academy were:

Azariah Smith	:	
	:	Senators.
Samuel E. Edwards	:	
Elijah Rhoades	:	Delegates to Congress
	:	to revise the State Con-
Dr. William Taylor	:	stitution in 1846.
J. V. H. Clark	:	Historian.
Nicholas P. Randal	:	
	:	Lawyers
Henry C. Van Schaack	:	

Dr. Henry B. Moore and later many others.

*Act of Legislature April 13, 1835, incorpora-
ting Manlius Academy with the following Trustees:

Azariah Smith	Algernon S. Hollister
Nicholas P. Randall	Carlos Smith
Dr. Taylor	David Bellamy
Silas Williams	R. Houghton
Peter R. Reed	

Bruce's History of Onondaga County, p. 784.



TAH-TO-TAH,
HEREDITARY CHIEF OFFICER OF THE
SIX NATIONS.
GRAND-SON OF EPHRIAM WEBSTER
FROM A DAGUERRETYPE MADE 1850.

INDIANS

(The original daguerreotypes were presented by Mr. Clark to the Onondaga Historical Association by whose courtesy they are reproduced)

The Indians represented were the highest chiefs of the Onondaga Nation in 1848. The history of their achievements may be read in Clark's "Onondaga". It had been Mr. Clark's plan to have the portraits of the chief--Abraham La Fort--painted by Mr. Thayer, the great portrait painter of Syracuse at that time. La Fort's last illness prevented. After the death of La Fort, Mr. Clark took a daguerrean to Onondaga Castle where La Fort lay in state, clothed in his official garments. The camera was in position, when in rushed his pagan wife and wildly forbade the picture being taken, as it would prevent his spirit reaching the Happy Hunting Grounds.

It was La Fort, with Ossahinta, who gave Mr. Clark our legend of Hiawatha--"A very wise man." Ossahinta was a gifted son of



CAPT. SAM GEORGE, 1850.

"SO-WA-NO-NAH."

FIRST WAR CHIEF ONONDAGA WARRIORS

60
nature, a statesman and orator, and a chief,
both by birth and election. He died in 1845.

La Fort was a chief by birth and the last of a long line of distinguished statesmen who could conduct a meeting of the council of the Five Nations according to the ancient ceremonial. The brilliant mind of La Fort as a youth attracted the attention of all who knew him. Bishop Hobart and Eleazar Williams interested others and he received an education through the Episcopal Church. He spoke the English language with great purity and fluency.

Mr. Clark's interest in Indian history antedated the publication of his History many years. As the war-worn and weary chiefs passed on official business from the Oneida to the Onondaga Nations, they were received by the young people of his neighborhood as their friends. In summer the choicest hay was given them in carriage

houses for sleeping. In winter they were brought in triumph to the fireplace in the kitchen.

Signals were given, and soon boys appeared as if by magic. In the morning these same boys escorted them a good distance on their way. Oundiaga, the oldest and their favorite chief, died on the road to Oneida, where he was going on official business.

A memory-picture presents itself to my mind as I write---a child, bounding home from school on a warm summer day, hears the soft music of the Indian tongue. Seeking its source, she sees through the open window three Indians; two in official dress with paint on their faces, the other interpreting their Indian language into English for my father. His reply he interprets into Indian language for the chiefs, all standing with great dignity. These chiefs were on their way to Washington to see the "Great White



JOSEPH REUBEN, 1850.

SO-DE-AN-TONK.

"SITTING DOWN AGAIN."

Father" and had stopped to receive the counsel of their friend GO-ya-de-caney-has. Many years afterwards she learns that at that at the end of the conference light refreshments were given, when the interpreter, spying a slightly cracked glass, arose with great courtesy, informing my father that the chiefs were never allowed to use a cracked article of crockery.

Sophia A. Clark

64

Note.

Mr. Clark's "History of Onondaga County" was published in 1849.

Mr. Clark died in 1869.

The semi-centennial of the publication was celebrated in 1899.

The Memorial was compiled in 1909.

Mr. Clark's last picture was taken in 1862, the daguerreotype was taken in 1848; the silhouette was taken in 1827.
